As observed by Government, the levy of a separate cess would only increase the assessment payable by the raiyats. The miras levied from them may be commuted into a money payment and the entire cost of remunerating the village servants may be borne by Government.

4. The old system of the payment of miras to totis at one *kolaga* of ragi and one bundle of grass by each raiyat may again be introduced.

Some concession may be shown to owners of land who pay a large amount of *kandayam* to Government as otherwise they are likely to suffer much during a failure of crops. At the time of taluk jamabandi it must be ascertained from the totis and talaris if their miras has been properly paid.

(*b*) Orders were passed in 1893 by Government that the miras payable to village servants in Jodi and Kayamgutta villages must be levied from the raiyats and not from the Jodidars; but the reply to Subject No. 61 of 1907 seems directly to contradict this order. Miras may be levied from the raiyats in accordance with the *mamul*.

Reply of Government.—The subject is a very intricate one and has been referred to the Revenue Commissioner and the Survey Superintendent for consideration. Their proposals are awaited.

Subject No. 85.

(1) Restoration of minor tanks.

Messrs. Chik Ramanna, Suryanarayanappa, Sonne Gowda, Byre Gowda, Kolar Taluk; Nama Rangaiya, Chintamani Taluk; D. Srikanta Rao, S. Gopalachar, Devanhalli, Amble Annaiya Pandit, Yedatore Taluk; Subrayabhatta, Seshappa, Tirthahalli Taluk; Nadiga Lakshmana Rao, Bhaskara Rao, Sorab Taluk; B. Sitharamaiya, Chikmagalur Taluk; and A. Venkatachar, Hole-Narsipur Taluk.

(2) Repairs to feeder channels of tanks.

Messrs. H. Rama Rao, Tumkur Taluk, and H. Shama Rao, Sagar Taluk.

(3) Regulation of water-supply from tanks.

Messrs. Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi Taluk, and Amble Anniah Pandit, Yedatore Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—1. For the restoration of tanks which have an achkat of Rs. 300 and under, Government require a contribution from raiyats. No such demand is made for tanks with an achkat of more than Rs. 300. A similar concession may be shown in the case of minor tanks also.

Since the raiyats pay a high assessment on lands irrigated by tanks, the cost of repairing them is properly a charge on Government and it is a hardship to the raiyats to be liable to pay contributions now and then for the purpose. The cost may, in future, be borne by Government.

In the malnad only major tanks are taken up for restoration by Government. As the number of such tanks is very small the restoration of all tanks with an achkat of Rs. 100 and upwards may be undertaken by Government.

The cost of the raiyats' share of the earthwork may be advanced by Government and recovered in four annual instalments along with the kandayam, interest at the rates paid by the Savings Bank being levied on the amount advanced.

An assessment of Rs. 6 per acre is fixed on wet lands under minor tanks as in the case of lands under major tanks and no distinction is made in the matter of rates. The wet assessment on lands below such tanks may be reduced to dry rates when crops fail.

Raiyats who have contributed to the repair of minor tanks should be shown some concession with regard to the use of unoccupied lands under them.

A special allotment of 5 lakhs of rupees may be made every year for the repair of minor tanks.

2. The repair and restoration of all feeders to tanks should be undertaken, as large expenditure on the repair of tanks is otherwise useless.

The Public Works Department now repairs only major tanks and not the main channels from those tanks which are required to be repaired entirely by the raiyats. As the main channels of several major tanks have been lying in disrepair for several years, these channels may be brought up to order by the Public Works Department and kept under proper supervision to ensure their annual maintenance work being carried on.

3. The scheme for entrusting the repair and maintenance of village tanks to Village Panchayets may be brought into force early.

Reply of Government.—These representations will be noted for consideration along with the Village Tank Panchayet Bill.

SUBJECT No. 86.

System of voluntary contributions.

Messrs. A. Narasimhia, Shanbhog Ramiah, Malvalli Taluk; Shamanna Udupa, Shimoga District Board and C. Nagappa, Nagar Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—The system of voluntary contributions is detrimental to the execution of many useful works. It may therefore be done away with. Where a certain percentage of the raiyats, say two-thirds of those holding lands that are irrigated by a tank, agree to pay contribution, the recovery of contribution from the others should be made compulsory. The proportion may also be fixed, if possible, entirely with reference to the extent of the lands under the tank and not with reference to the number of individual holders. The repairs of several minor tanks have been at a stand-still as some raiyats have not paid up their contributions. The result has been prejudicial to the interests of cultivation. It is therefore prayed that the repairs of these tanks may be done at Government cost, and the raiyats' share subsequently recovered as a revenue demand.

Reply of Government.—The question whether it is necessary to introduce legislation in the matter will be noted for consideration.

SUBJECT No. 87.

Repair of damage to lands caused by the breach of channel bunds.

Mr. B. Kesava Iyengar, Belur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Owing to the breach of channel bunds, valuable lands of raiyats situated under them suffer much damage. In accordance with the channel rules such damage may be repaired out of the allotments made by Government for the repairs of such channels.